

REMARKS

Submitted herewith are copies of the translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Report on Patentability, along with marked-up and clean versions of the specification.

By the foregoing, the application has been amended to conform to the specification and claims as amended during international preliminary examination, and to confirm to U.S. practice. No new matter has been introduced.

The claims as filed have been replaced with claims corresponding to those filed during international preliminary examination, with changes in format only to the extent needed to conform to U.S. practice.

As a result of the foregoing, claims 24 to 42 are pending for a total of 19 claims, including 15 independent claims. Our check in the amount of \$900 to cover the excess claims fee for nine additional independent claims in excess of three is submitted herewith.

Marked-up and clean versions of the specification are also submitted herewith.

Should the examiner wish to discuss the foregoing or any matter of form in an effort to advance this application toward allowance, she is urged to telephone the undersigned at the indicated number.

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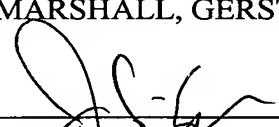
October 6, 2006

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Respectfully submitted,

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